GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2563
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002
POST OFFICES AND PCOS IN VILLAGES
SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA;V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 30% village in the country having no post offices and PCOs till today;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the reasons for not providing these facilities in these villages;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any time bound programme for providing post offices and PCOs in those villages; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. 77.24% of villages in the country are without post office, but all the villages in the country are provided with basic postal facilities of sale of stamps and stationery. Collection and delivery of mails. 82.28% of villages in the country are provided with telecom facility.

(c) to (e): Expansion of Postal Network is a Plan activity and opening of post offices is subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms and availability of requisite resources. During the year 2002-2003, a target for opening of 250 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 25 Departmental Sub Offices in the country has been fixed. As for the telecom facility, all the remaining inhabited villages are to be covered by 2002 subject to availability of funds from Government and supply of equipment in time. These efforts are to be supplemented by Private Basic Service Operators(PBSOs).